USE OF A SCANNER TO DETERMINE THE OPTICAL DENSITY OF CALCINED COKE AS A MEASURE OF COKE QUALITY

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An improved test for quantifying lustre of petroleum products in particle form, especially coke, as an index of quality. A representative sample of the product is obtained and prepared. A digital image of the sample is formed using a scanner. The image is then processed digitally to produce a representative lustre or optical density measurement for the sample. The preceding process may be repeated several times for each sample and the resultant lustre or optical density measurements for each iteration are totaled and averaged. Once the lustre measurement or optical density for the sample is obtained, it is compared to established parameters to assign a CTE value to the sample, assuming there is sufficient historical data correlating the two measurements. Various refining operating parameters including feedstocks, temperatures and pressures, may be altered to obtain a desired product.